WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of limiting current, said method comprising:

providing an AC sine wave to at least one heater element of an electric clothes dryer;

stopping said providing at a zero crossing of the AC sine wave;

monitoring the AC sine wave for a subsequent zero crossing; and

reproviding the AC sine wave to the at least one heater element at the subsequent zero crossing.

2. A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said reproviding comprises reproviding the AC sine wave to the at least one heater element at a zero crossing immediately subsequent the zero crossing at which the AC sine wave was stopped.

3. A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said reproviding comprises reproviding the AC sine wave to the at least one heater element at a zero crossing at least two half cycles subsequent the zero crossing at which the AC sine wave was stopped.

4. A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising controlling said stopping and said reproviding with a controller based on an input signal from a temperature sensor.

5. A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising controlling said stopping and said reproviding with a controller based on an input signal from a humidity sensor.

6. A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising controlling said stopping and said reproviding with a controller based on an input signal from a clothing moisture sensor.

7. A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising controlling said stopping and said reproviding with a controller based on an input signal from a temperature sensor and a humidity sensor.

8. A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising controlling said stopping and said reproviding with a controller based on an input signal from a temperature sensor and a clothing moisture sensor.

9. A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising controlling said stopping and said reproviding with a controller based on an input signal from a humidity sensor and a clothing moisture sensor.

10. An electric clothes dryer heater system comprising:

a heater element; and

a controller operationally coupled to said heater, said controller configured to:

provide an AC sine wave to at least one heater element of an electric clothes dryer;

stop said providing at a zero crossing of the AC sine wave;

monitor the AC sine wave for a subsequent zero crossing; and

reprovide the AC sine wave to the at least one heater element at the subsequent zero crossing.

11. A system in accordance with Claim 10 wherein to reprovide the AC sine wave to said at least one heater element, said controller configured to reprovide a zero crossing immediately subsequent the zero crossing at which the AC sine wave was stopped.

12. A system in accordance with Claim 10 A dryer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein to reprovide the AC sine wave to said at least one heater element, said controller configured to reprovide at a zero crossing at least two half cycles subsequent the zero crossing at which the AC sine wave was stopped.

13. A system in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said controller configured to stop and reprovide the AC sine wave based on an input signal from a temperature sensor.

14. A system in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said controller configured to stop and reprovide the AC sine wave based on an input signal from a humidity sensor.

15. A system in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said controller configured to stop and reprovide the AC sine wave based on an input signal from a clothing moisture sensor.

16. A dryer for tumble drying articles comprising:

a drum comprising a cavity configured to hold articles to be dried;

a motor drivingly coupled to said drum to rotate said drum;

a heater element in flow communication with said cavity;

a blower positioned to deliver heated air to said cavity; and

a controller operationally coupled to said heater, said controller configured to:

provide an AC sine wave to at least one heater element of an electric clothes dryer;

stop said providing at a zero crossing of the AC sine wave;

monitor the AC sine wave for a subsequent zero crossing; and

reprovide the AC sine wave to the at least one heater element at the subsequent zero crossing.

17. A dryer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein to reprovide the AC sine wave to said at least one heater element, said controller configured to reprovide a zero crossing immediately subsequent the zero crossing at which the AC sine wave was stopped.

18. A dryer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein to reprovide the AC sine wave to said at least one heater element, said controller configured to reprovide at a zero crossing at least two half cycles subsequent the zero crossing at which the AC sine wave was stopped.

19. A dryer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein said controller configured to stop and reprovide the AC sine wave based on an input signal from a temperature sensor.

20. A dryer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein said controller configured to stop and reprovide the AC sine wave based on an input signal from a humidity sensor.

21. A dryer in accordance with Claim 16 wherein said controller configured to stop and reprovide the AC sine wave based on an input signal from a clothing moisture sensor.

22. A gas clothes dryer heater system comprising:

a linear gas valve;

a burner operationally coupled to said valve; and

a controller operationally coupled to said valve, said controller configured to:

control said valve in an on state such that said burner produces a first heat output; and

adjust said valve in the on state such that said burner produces a second heat output less than the first.

23. A system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein said controller configured to adjust said valve to gradually vary the heat output of said burner.

24. A system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein said controller configured to adjust said valve based on an input signal from a temperature sensor.

25. A system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein said controller configured to adjust said valve based on an input signal from a humidity sensor.

26. A system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein said controller configured to adjust said valve based on an input signal from a clothing moisture sensor.

27. A dryer for tumble drying articles comprising:

a drum comprising a cavity configured to hold articles to be dried;

a motor drivingly coupled to the drum to rotate said drum;

a linear gas valve;

a burner operationally coupled to said valve and in flow communication with said cavity;

a blower positioned to deliver heated air to said cavity; and

a controller operationally coupled to said linear gas valve, said controller configured to:

control said valve in an on state such that said burner produces a first heat output; and

adjust said valve in the on state such that said burner produces a second heat output less than the first.

28. A dryer in accordance with Claim 27 wherein said controller configured to adjust said valve based on an input signal from a temperature sensor.

29. A dryer in accordance with Claim 27 wherein said controller configured to adjust said valve based on an input signal from a humidity sensor.

30. A dryer in accordance with Claim 27 wherein said controller configured to adjust said valve based on an input signal from a clothing moisture sensor.